

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES  
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA



Seventieth meeting of the Standing Committee  
Rosa Khutor, Sochi (Russian Federation), 1-5 October 2018

Interpretation and implementation matters

General compliance and enforcement

National reports

SUBMISSION OF ANNUAL REPORTS

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.

Compliance with annual report submission requirements

2. In Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP17) on *National reports*, paragraphs 1, 14 and 15, the Conference of the Parties:

1. *URGES all Parties to submit their annual reports required under the provisions of Article VIII, paragraph 7 (a), by 31 October following the year for which they are due and in accordance with the most recent version of the Guidelines for the preparation and submission of CITES annual reports distributed by the Secretariat, as may be amended with the concurrence of the Standing Committee;*

14. *INSTRUCTS the Standing Committee to determine, on the basis of reports presented by the Secretariat, which Parties have failed, for three consecutive years and without having provided adequate justification, to provide the annual reports required under Article VIII, paragraph 7 (a), of the Convention within the deadline (or any extended deadline) provided in the present Resolution;*

and

15. *RECOMMENDS that Parties not authorize trade in specimens of CITES-listed species with any Party that the Standing Committee has determined has failed, for three consecutive years and without having provided adequate justification, to provide the annual reports required under Article VIII, paragraph 7 (a), of the Convention within the deadline (or any extended deadline) provided in the present Resolution.*

3. At its 69th meeting (SC69, Geneva, November 2017), the Standing Committee determined that Brunei Darussalam, Djibouti, Dominica, Equatorial Guinea and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines had failed to provide annual reports for three consecutive years, without having provided adequate justification, and agreed that if they did not provide their missing reports within 60 days of the SC69 meeting, the Secretariat would issue a Notification recommending that Parties not authorize any trade in specimens of CITES-listed species with those Parties until the missing reports were provided.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> See agenda item 28.1 of the SC69 Summary Record

4. The Secretariat sent reminders to the Parties mentioned in paragraph 3, and the following reports were received within the 60-day deadline:

Brunei Darussalam (reports for 20103 to 2016) and Equatorial Guinea (2014 to 2016).

5. The Secretariat issued Notification to the Parties Nos. 2018/015, 2018/016 and 2018/017 on 30 January 2018 informing Parties that, in accordance with Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP17), the Standing Committee recommended that they not authorize trade in specimens of CITES-listed species with Djibouti, Dominica and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines until further notice. On 8 February 2018, following receipt of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines' missing reports, the Secretariat issued Notification to the Parties No. 2018/019 withdrawing the recommended trade suspension concerning Saint Vincent and the Grenadines with immediate effect. On 17 May 2018, following receipt of Dominica's missing reports, the Secretariat issued Notification to the Parties No. 2018/050 also withdrawing the recommended trade suspension concerning Dominica, with immediate effect.
6. Afghanistan (see Notification to the Parties [No. 2013/018](#) of 17 May 2013), Djibouti (see Notification to the Parties [No. 2018/015](#) of 30 January 2018) and Grenada (see Notification to the Parties [No. 2016/022](#) of 16 March 2016) remain subject to a recommendation to suspend trade for the non-submission of annual reports.
7. According to paragraph 1 of Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP17) on *National reports*, the deadline for annual reports is 31 October each year for trade in the previous calendar year (e.g. 31 October 2018 for the 2017 CITES annual report). Pursuant to Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP17), the Secretariat would like to inform the Standing Committee that, for the first time ever, its records show that no Parties have failed to submit annual reports for three consecutive years (or more) during the period 2015–2017.
8. However, the Secretariat's table of annual report submissions shows that the following Parties have not yet submitted their annual reports for the past two years (2015 and 2016)<sup>2</sup>: Albania, Fiji, Guatemala, Iceland, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Papua New Guinea, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Somalia and Ukraine. If the above-mentioned Parties fail to submit their 2017 CITES annual report, due on 31 October 2018 without adequate justification, they could also be subject to a Standing Committee recommendation to suspend trade. The Secretariat will orally provide an update on the submission of these reports at the present meeting.

#### Recommendations

9. The Secretariat recommends that the Standing Committee notes that, for the first time ever, no Parties have failed to submit annual reports for three consecutive years (or more) during the period 2015–2017 and commend all Parties for their efforts to submit annual reports within the deadline.
10. The Secretariat further recommends that the Standing Committee, pursuant to Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP17), and on the basis of the present report and any updated information received by 31 October 2018, instructs the Secretariat to determine whether the Parties mentioned in paragraph 8 have failed to provide annual reports for three consecutive years, without having provided adequate justification. If so determined, the Secretariat will issue a Notification (60 days after the deadline of 31 October 2018) recommending that Parties not authorize any commercial trade in specimens of CITES-listed species with those Parties until they have provided the missing reports.

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<sup>2</sup> Available at <https://cites.org/eng/resources/reports.php>